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## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Shakopee man pleads guilty to Plymouth bank robbery**

A 32-year-old Shakopee man pleaded guilty today in federal court to one count of bank robbery in connection with the Nov. 11, 2007, holdup of a TCF Bank in Plymouth.

Samuel Bension Ventura entered his plea June 10 in Minneapolis before United States District Court Judge John Tunheim. Ventura was indicted on March 4, 2008.

According to his plea agreement, Ventura admitted that on Nov. 11 he did by force, violence and intimidation, take approximately \$5,706 from a bank teller. Ventura also admitted that he committed five additional bank robberies as charged in his indictment.

Those robberies occurred at the Highland Bank, located inside the Mall of America (Oct. 19, 2007); a TCF Bank in Edina (Oct. 24); a US Bank in St. Louis Park (Nov. 6); and a Guaranty Bank in Plymouth (Nov. 29 and Dec. 3).

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, Ventura allegedly entered the banks, and handed a teller a note stating "This is a robbery, give me all the money in your drawer. Don't make me use my gun."

Ventura faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Judge Tunheim will determine Ventura's sentence at a future date.

This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI, and the police departments of Bloomington, Edina, Plymouth and St. Louis Park. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathan P. Petterson.